GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3303
ANSWERED ON:05.02.2004
PROGRAMMES OF DEFAULTERS ON DOORDARSHAN/AIR
RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to discontinue telecast of programmes on Doordarshan/AIR of defaulting producers and agencies who fail to pay outstanding telecast fees;

(b) if so, the details alongwith defaulting producers and agencies who fail to pay outstanding telecast fees and the details of arrears outstanding against them during last three years and till date, agency-wise, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring transparency in the functioning of Doordarshan/AIR; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a)&(b): Prasar Bharati has informed that chronic defaulters are not allowed programmes if they fail to clear their dues even after being given reasonable opportunities. In respect of AIR, total outstanding against defaulting agencies as on 30.06.2003 is Rs. 4.37 crores whereas in case of Doordarshan, it is Rs. 219.72 crores as on 30.01.2004. Details are given in annexure-I & II respectively.

(c) & (d): Prasar Bharati has taken many steps to bring transparency in its functioning. Guidelines for commissioning, sponsoring, co-production are the major steps in this direction. All the guidelines and details of major activities of AIR and DD are availableon their respective websites.